

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph that starts on page 9, line 30, and ends on page 10, line 12, as follows:

SAN 100 is a high-bandwidth, low-latency network interconnecting nodes within the distributed computer system. A node is any component attached to one or more links of a network and forming the origin and/or destination of messages within the network. In the depicted example, SAN 100 includes nodes in the form of host processor node 102, host processor node 104, redundant array independent disk (RAID) subsystem node 106, and I/O chassis node 108. The nodes illustrated in **Figure 1** are for illustrative purposes only, as SAN 100 can connect any number and any type of independent processor nodes, such as node 110, I/O adapter nodes, and I/O device nodes. Any one of the nodes can function as an endnode, which is herein defined to be a device that originates or finally consumes messages or frames in SAN 100.

Please amend the paragraphs that start on page 27, line 28, and end on page 28, line 27, as follows:

In **Figure 8**, a portion 800 of a distributed computer system is depicted to illustrate an example request and acknowledgment transaction. The distributed computer system in **Figure 8** includes a host processor node 802 and a host processor node 804. Host processor node 802 includes a host channel adapter 806. Host processor node 804 includes a host channel adapter 808. The distributed computer system in **Figure 8** includes a SAN fabric 810, which includes a switch 812 and a switch 814. The SAN fabric includes a link coupling host channel adapter 806 to switch 812; a link coupling switch 812 to switch 814; and a link coupling host channel adapter 808 to switch 814.

In the example transactions, host processor node 802 includes a client process A 816. Host processor node 804 includes a client process B 818. Client process A 816 interacts with host channel adapter hardware 806 through queue pair 820 [[824]]. Client process B 818 interacts with hardware channel adapter hardware 808 through queue pair

822 [[**828**]]. Queue pairs **820** [[**824**]] and **822** [[**828**]] are data structures that include a send work queue **824, 828** and a receive work queue **826, 830**.

Process A **816** initiates a message request by posting work queue elements to the send queue **824** of queue pair **820** [[**824**]]. Such a work queue element is illustrated in **Figure 4**. The message request of client process A **816** is referenced by a gather list contained in the send work queue element. Each data segment in the gather list points to a virtually contiguous local memory region, which contains a part of the message, such as indicated by data segments 1, 2, and 3, which respectively hold message parts 1, 2, and 3, in **Figure 4**.

Please amend the paragraph that starts on page 34, line 28, and ends on page 35, line 8, as follows:

Consumers **1103** and **1105** represent applications or processes that employ the other layers for communicating between endnodes. Transport layer **1104** provides end-to-end message movement. In one embodiment, the transport layer provides four types of transport services as described above which are reliable connection service; reliable datagram service; unreliable datagram service; and raw datagram service. Network layer **1106** performs packet routing through a subnet or multiple subnets to destination endnodes. Link layer **1108** performs flow-controlled **1120**, error checked, and prioritized packet delivery across links.